

Goodbye, Ferries...

As I look back on the last two and a half years as Assistant Secretary for Washington State Ferries, there are many highlights. Working with our 1,800 dedicated employees, who are committed to positive change, was truly the highlight of my career. Here are some of my favorite moments.



Ordinary Seaman training: One of the most difficult and rewarding things I have ever done. There is no doubt about the abilities of WSF crews, particularly when it comes to safety and survival techniques. I particularly enjoyed the firefighting portion.

January 27, 2017

Spring reservations available Thursday, Feb. 2

Planning a spring trip? Mark your calendar! The first tier of Spring

Schedule reservations will be available beginning next week on Thursday, Feb. 2 (last week's Weekly Update incorrectly listed the date as Feb. 1). Reservations for Anacortes/San Juan Island routes and Port

Townsend/Coupeville are available on the [WSF reservations page](#).

Spring sailing schedule cover contest winner announced

On Wednesday, we announced our 2017 Spring sailing schedule cover contest winner. Alexander Sowers, an 8th grader from Seattle, won the competition with his great drawing that includes a ferry and Puget Sound wildlife. Check out our Twitter feed and [Flickr page](#) for more of the drawings.



Chimacum christening: I had the honor of christening the third Olympic Class ferry, *Chimacum*, in September.

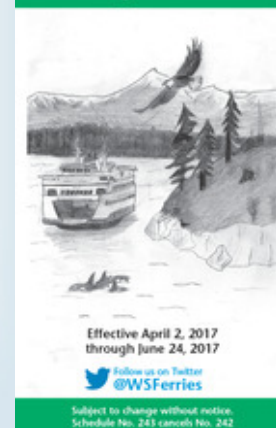


Women of WSF: We have assembled a great team at WSF and I am so proud that it includes many strong and hard working women.



Working with our ferry-served communities: I've enjoyed getting to know our customers and community members

Spring 2017 Sailing Schedule



Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth task force update

The Triangle Improvement Task Force is getting to work! The task force, comprised of customers and neighbors of the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route, is charged with recommending "quick wins" to improve service by summer 2017 and exploring long-term solutions to help WSF better serve those affected by the route. The group will hold its first meeting Jan. 30 at 7 pm in the Fauntleroy neighborhood. For more information, visit the task force [web page](#).

Customer kudos

I'd like to extend a special thank you to the crews who worked last Saturday, Jan. 21. It was a busy day due to large crowds traveling to Seattle for a protest march. Here are two of the many customer compliments thanking our employees for their hard work that day.

"Just want to thank the ferry

from all our ferry-served communities. I particularly enjoyed the three days I spent last summer meeting with FAC members, local officials and representatives from the tourism industry in the San Juan Islands.



Connecting Washington event at Colman Dock: One of the projects included in the Connecting Washington package was the Seattle Multimodal Terminal at Colman Dock Project. Governor Inslee held a great event at the terminal last year celebrating this milestone and I enjoyed celebrating with so many regional transportation leaders.



AFFECT charity cruise: I am consistently amazed by what wonderful employees we have at Ferries and so glad I was able to participate in our yearly holiday charity cruise. The cruise highlights the dedication of our staff to supporting our community.

workers on the Vashon-Fauntleroy run -- all day [Saturday, Jan. 21] they were helpful, kind and cheerful as hundreds of Vashon Islanders came to Seattle for the Womxn's March. They helped us move on and off the boats as quickly as we could in order to maintain the schedule - all with a smile. I am so appreciative - I know it was a challenging day for them. Thank you!"

- Vashon Island Customer

"The crew was wonderful in handling the mass crowd of Seattle marchers headed to and from Vashon. We were treated kindly, efficiently, and very professionally. Thanks to all the ferry workers for your help!"

- Vashon Island Customer



Suquamish keel laying: I had the pleasure of joining Gov. Jay Inslee, Sen. Christine Rolfes, and Suquamish Tribal Chairman Leonard Forsman as they struck ceremonial welds on the keel of the fourth Olympic Class ferry, *Suquamish*.



Recognizing the heroic efforts of our crew: Our crews are highly trained and capable. In 2016, we awarded 18 life ring awards. I had the pleasure of awarding three of these awards last week on the *Chetzemoka*.

...and thank you!



I'd like to conclude with a huge thank you to those who have helped me succeed along the way. Thank you to my boss, WSDOT Deputy Secretary Keith Metcalf, and thank you to WSDOT Secretary Roger Millar for their continuous support throughout my time here. Thank you to the amazing WSF and WSDOT executive teams. Without your help, WSF could never have achieved so much in two years.

I wish the best of luck to my successor, Amy Scarton. I know she will be welcomed with open arms. Good luck to you all.

Sincerely,

Lynne Griffith

Assistant Secretary, WSDOT/Ferries Division



WSF Weekly Updates are available on our website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly

Questions? Contact us at WSFWeeklyUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov
